

Jack Knight Sure to Hold Down Infield Position---Big Leaguers Are Going South

THREE PLACES ARE OPEN TO KNIGHT

Griffith Says Former Yankee Is Certain to Play in Nationals' Infield---Big League Teams Leaving for Southern Training Camps and Season Nears.

How Baseball Is Really Beginning

New York Giants working out at Marlin, Texas, today.
Brooklyn Nationals arrive at Hot Springs, Ark., today.
Philadelphia Athletics leave for Texas tomorrow.
Dooin's Phillies leave for Hot Springs Saturday.
Cleveland leaves for Mobile, Ala., February 29.
Chicago Cubs leave for New Orleans March 2.
Nationals' rookies report here March 2.
Giants play at Dallas, Texas, March 2.
Nationals begin practice at Charlottesville March 4.
Highlanders report at Atlanta, Ga., March 4.

By "SENATOR."

"There are three positions in our infield which are still absolutely open, and Jack Knight will fit into one of these. Whether he will play first, second, or third I do not yet know, but I am figuring upon him playing one of these places." This is the most definite announcement which Clark Griffith has had to make concerning the exchange with the New York Highlanders through which Charley Street left the Washington team.

"My understanding with the New York team was that there would be nothing given out concerning the exchange in the deal until some detail had been completed, but within the next couple of days we shall let the public here know who the other man in the deal is. I have seen enough of Knight to know that he is a good ball player and, regardless of the third man involved, I cannot figure where we could possibly lose by the trade. The beauty about Knight is that he is still a young man and he can fit in anywhere in case of injury, but I am counting on him to help us out wherever a weakness in the infield might develop. The catcher we are to get is a corner and I think we could well do with a catcher who can stop when our corps of catchers is admitted to be about the best balanced in the American League." Griffith received a number of letters today from players acknowledging receipt of the orders to be here one week from yesterday, and judging by the tone of these notes all are ready and anxious to start work.

Start Tomorrow.

The world's champion Philadelphia Athletics will get under way for San Antonio, Tex., tomorrow—that is to say, the rookies will, accompanied by as many of the loyal scribes as are about to be around after the big sportswriter's banquet, due to be seen and heard this evening in the Walton. Also, one C. Mack, father of all managers and the original brain trust, will be in the party. Three youngsters, Roger Salmon, the Princeton twirling phenom; Maggett, an outfielder from the Oakland club of the Pacific Coast League; and young Chase, the kid first baseman from Orange, Mass., will attract most of the attention. Griffith has these three lads as being the best of the big show.

Salmon broke into headlines last year when he fanned twenty-nine catchers up at Princeton. Then one day he worked out with Bressanini's Cardinals at the Polo Grounds, and Radach thought he had him cinched. But C. Mack applied the acid test of pen, ink and paper to the youngster's writing flat, and the nation's consensus concluded that he belonged to the Athletics. C. Mack will pay most of his attention to this lad in the future, seeing in him a successor of the veteran Eddie Plank. Yes, Salmon is a portable flinger.

This Maggett person is also said to be some shakes as a pastime on the green, grassy sward. He landed on the curving and bounding pellets of the bat enough last season to roll up a string of hits totaling at 314, while his gyrations in the garden elicited him to figures of 308, which is quite respectable. He was fifth in the procession of slugging duffers of the Golden West, and swiped twenty-seven cushions during the campaign.

May Equal Hal.

Young Chase is expected to blossom into an equal of his famous namesake, "Childe Harold" Chase, of the New York Highlanders. He, too, is a first baseman, and hurls the pill with his port fin. Pastime for the Orange team in the Spanish League last season he walked off the best twirlers of that circuit for 325, and gambled around the first cushion to the merry favorite of 344. But it isn't so much what he did last year as what he is hoped to do this season, or possibly next season, that is keeping Connie Mack interested in the lad. He is said to have all the signs of becoming a better man than Chase ever hopes to be.

Another young sent sure to attract some attention will be one "Lefty" Russell, the "Big Red" of 1911. This young man declares that he will be good this season, and wants to show Mack that his record of 1910 in the Eastern League was no bloomer. "I have the goods," he says, "and all I want is the chance to show it. Connie will give him that chance and nothing more."

Next Comes Egan.

Then there is Arthur Egan, Jack Dunn's backstop in Baltimore last season. Egan will sit on the bench this year and look at Ira Thomas and Jack

Lapp take the high ones. If he looks good enough in the practice he will be allowed to remain on the bench until he grows up to Athletics standard. If he doesn't, he goes back to some bush league and Connie will pull a string and fish up some other young catcher waiting for the signal out on the prairie.

Giants At Work.

The first squad of the New York Giants is at Marlin Springs, Tex., today and before the end of the week half the team will be there. The Brooklyn Nationals begin their work at Hot Springs this week, joining the little band of independent athletes already there.

George Mullin and Sam Crawford, of the Detroit Tigers, and Sir Mikail Ikonin, the Pirates' latest acquisition in the wheel of chance, are already there, boiling off superfluous weight and increasing their lung capacity for breath. Dutch Schaefer, the Nationals' comedian first sacker and challenger of Jim Flynn and John Arthur Johnson, will tackle the bat at the Springs next Monday in order to be able to give Jack Knight, Jack Flynn, and young Spencer the battle of their lives around the first corner down at Charlottesville.

In other words, King Baseball is donning his catcher's cap and all that, and will look in the glass to see if his golden crown is on straight.

Ends the Clearing.

The trading of Charley Street practically ends the clearing out of the Nationals, a move that Griffith decided upon as soon as he was placed in charge. While the manager has considerable knowledge of each of the men on the roster, McBride, Hughes, and Schaefer are the only real veterans left who were working regularly when Griffith quit the New York club. Where Schaefer is to play has not yet been decided, but McBride and Hughes appear to have their respective positions. Schaefer had such an excellent season last year with the bat that Griffith is banking upon that player as one of the most valuable offensive assets with the team, and should some other win out in the fight for first base, he will have a long lead for one of the places in the outer gardens.

"In all the talks I had with the baseball writers of this city when I was with rival clubs, I found out that the principal criticism of the management was that it was too slow in making a move on the old fellows," Griffith said today, in discussing the Street-Knight deal. "Everybody seemed to think that a mistake was being made in holding onto those who had enjoyed long careers in the majors."

Regrettably, I thought the same way and I signed to get new talent here, of course, it is possible that we may not be able to grab up a whole bunch of new stars in one year, but I am determined to take a chance in this regard, so the fans who see me play our opening game here in April.

Says He's Done.

Asked today if he was figuring on further deals, Griffith said he was through unless some manager should come through with a proposition by which the Nationals might be benefited.

That Griffith has more confidence in his outfield, pitchers, and catchers but is not satisfied with the infield, has been known for some time, and all of his moves he has made since taking charge have been in an endeavor to get together a better combination. He is not sure, however, he is plain not to know himself, what four men will play the infield positions, and this will probably go unsolved until after the team's training at Charlottesville has been completed.

Little serious consideration is given to baseball headquarters to the fact that neither of the remaining catchers will be able to handle Walter Johnson's speed. While Street was the man who worked best with Johnson, the fact of the matter is that both Henry and Alsmith have successfully received the big pitcher, and will be depended upon to repeat next summer.

Pays to Have Old Head Among Catchers

The clubs without a staff of veteran catchers are overlooking that fault this spring by engaging oldtimers to coach the young pitchers and catchers on the training trip, thus following the example set by John McGraw of the Giants who has had Wilbert Robinson of the old Orioles to take charge of his battery recruits. Hughey Jennings has added Joe Studden and Jim McGuire to his staff, while the Boston Red Sox have hired Duke Farrell. Hank O'Day will use Helme Peitz for the same purpose. "I believe that the clubs who adopt similar measures had not badly fared," says Studden. "There is no denying the fact that it pays to have an old head among the catchers." Most of the other clubs in both leagues are well fixed in that respect, with such veterans as Bressanini, Arthur, Sullivan, Gibson, Doolan, Fennell, Drury, Cusack, Cass, Lane, Deley, Dinklin, Maroney and Laralde.

Preps Begin Indoor Practice at Hilltop

Indoor work for candidates for the Georgetown Preparatory School baseball team commenced today in Ryan gymnasium. Preliminary work will be under the direction of Professor Joyce. Candidates are McCarthy, Partridge, Phillips and Corbett, pitchers; Marini and Shean, catchers; Martin, Hannan, Burns, Bidulph, Blake, Dolan, Fennell, Drury, Cusack, Cass, Lane, Deley, Dinklin, Maroney and Laralde.

Frank Farrell's Great Diamond Gamble of 1912



"HANDSOME HAL" CHASE.

BINGLES AND BUNTS

By Grantland Rice.

A once big leaguer slid in home at 3 a. m. one morn'g. With a perfect fielding average in the league of Barley-corn.

He had pulled down fifteen high-balls, every one quite warm and hot.

And at every chance presented he was Wagner on the Spot.

But as he fumbled at the key his wife was waiting there With his favorite Ash Furniture suspended in the air.

And as he tried to curve across she bunted at his head, And slammed a triple on his neck as viciously she said:

REFRAIN—

"You useter hit 300—O your batting was immense!

You useter slam 'em every day against the left field fence!

But now you're in a bush league, for there ain't no guy in sight

Can bat around three hundred. No, who bats around all night."

Mike Kelly was one of the few who could bat around 300 and all night successfully, but this doesn't prove anything, even as an exception to a deadly certain rule. If Mike had steered away from the all night part of it he might have batted around 400 or better.

If Sockalexis, the Indian whirlwind, had laid off the juice of the grape and the corn, his name today would be linked with that of Anson, Lajoie, Delehanty and Cobb as one of the few wonder hitters of the game. If Raymond had never soused he would probably rank today as the pitching marvel of the pastime.

Raymond's Chance.

Raymond probably started with more than any young pitcher in all history. We saw him work his debut battle in the Southern League about eight years ago. Pitching for Atlanta, he was slated to step in that afternoon against the world's champion Boston team, led by Jimmy Collins. Mathewson, Walsh, nor Johnson, as they are today, could have looked as impressive. The Bugs was big and strong, with a flawless pitching motion that carried no touch of waste effort. He had the smoke of Vesuvius and a curve ball that cracked off with the snap of a plucked icicle. His control was deadly, and above all, he had unbeatable poise and a universe of confidence.

A youngster, pitching against the world champs, he began kidding them from the start. Jimmy Collins looked the same to him as some fat boy in the Fried Ham circuit. He worked the full nine rounds, shut Boston out with two hits and whiffed ten men. And at 10 o'clock that night was just starting on his second quart.

Might Have Tied Cy Young.

If Raymond had only stalked the straight and narrow he had his chance of being the best pitcher in the world, and in place of being through today, with that wonderful pitching motion of his, he could have given Cy Young's twenty-two seasons a tough run, with an even chance of beating the Paoli Phenom to Time's record goal line. The only wonder is that the Renowned Insect could have carried as far as he did when one figures what he carried the greater part of the distance.

The era of the mogul is about over in ballroom. His noisy chatter doesn't carry very far against the dull roar of the base hit or the thud of the flashing missile as it thuds into the mitt. Which brings further cause for thanksgiving over the rapid waning of the winter circuit.

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FANS WILL WATCH CHASE'S PLAYING

President Frank Farrell Gambling That "Childe Harold" Will Perform Brilliantly, But Many Rooters Expect Him to Cause Trouble in Ranks of Highlanders.

Hal Chase's Career on the Diamond

Year.	Team.	G.	B.	F.
1904—	Los Angeles, Pacific Coast League, 2b and 1b.	175	279	365
1905—	New York Americans, 1b.	126	249	376
1906—	New York Americans, 1b.	151	323	580
1907—	New York Americans, 1b.	125	257	373
1908—	New York Americans, 1b.	106	257	380
1909—	Stockton, California State League, 1b.	21	385	378
1909—	New York Americans, 1b.	118	283	378
1910—	New York Americans, 1b.	130	290	381
1911—	New York Americans, 1b.	133	315	378

By "SENATOR."

Oh yes, there are Ty Cobb, Eddie Collins, Larry Lajoie and Frank Baker to occupy the eyes of the thousands of American League fans this season, but along with these worthies there is "Childe Harold" Chase, the crack first sacker of the New York Highlanders. The fans will watch him closely to see if he can make good as a player under a manager of the same team that he managed last season.

"I'm willing to play first base for you," Chase told Frank Farrell, "for the same money I got last year."

"I'm willing to pay you that same money," was Farrell's reply, "if you play the kind of ball you did before you became manager."

And so the bargain was struck, even while the sport writers were telling how Chase was considering his retirement from the game to enter business.

Hal Chase has been known as quite, if not the best, first baseman in the game. He was a wonder when he broke into the American League, back in 1905. His startling hits of fielding have seldom been equaled and never surpassed. His spectacular performances and his quick, nervous way of playing have endeared him to the New York populace. They are with him today, even when the team was going down rapidly. They are with him today, even when Harry Wolcott is giving the order to Chase to have a marvelous hold on the hearts of New York fans.

Predict Trouble.

However, there are many who say that, having led the Yankees, he is to defeat Chase will never again to content with laboring in the ranks. They say that he will find things going not to his satisfaction and will repeat his startling jump of 1908, when he leaped out of the ranks of organized baseball into the California outlaw league. Here's where Frank Farrell's big gamble shows itself.

If Hal Chase remains with the Highlanders, putting his whole soul into the game, caring not at all about the responsibility he should better hold on the hearts of New York fans.

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Only Club Whose Star Is Southpaw

Cleveland is the only American League club that has for its star pitcher a left-hander. Gregg, of course, is the Nationals' mainstay in the box, while the other club leaders are all right-handers, the list being: Philadelphia, Bender; Detroit, Mullin; New York, Ford; Washington, Johnson; Boston, Wood; Chicago, Walsh; St. Louis, Lake.

In the National League, the ratio favors the southpaws a trifle more, inasmuch as Maynard and Rucker, both left-handers, led the New York and Brooklyn pitching staffs last season. Their club leaders are: Philadelphia, Alexander; Chicago, St. Louis, Lake; Adams; Cincinnati, Suggs; Boston, T. L. Salley, a southpaw, led the St. Louis pitchers, but as he brooketraining and was suspended in mid-season, Harmon, a right hander, gets the honors.

Jackson Is Out to Defeat Cobb at Bat

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 9.—Joe Jackson, the hard hitter from Cayuga who went from New Orleans to the Cleveland team, and last season batted a close second to Tyus Raymond Cobb, another Southerner, is in town for carnal diversion, and today stated he hoped to defeat Cobb for the honor of leading all major league batsmen next season.

Joe is in this condition, a trifle heavier, but light on his feet as a dancing master. Jackson has good reason to believe that he will lead the league in the wonderful record of 129 made last season. The 1911 campaign was the first in which he batted .300 or better, and he had hit .300 or better in each of his first four years in the majors.

Philadelphians Go South Saturday

The Philadelphia Nationals, thirty-two strong, will leave the Quaker City for West Baden, Ind., Saturday. They will remain there four or five days and will then proceed to Hot Springs, Ark., where more than 20 ball players will be training before the start of next month. The Quakers' make-up is as follows:

Pitchers—Alexander, Moore, Curtis, Chalmers, Brennan, Shultz, Scanlon, Hasmussen, Hunt, Masters, Kutz, Seaton, Ward, and Shuman.

Catchers—Doorn, Kilduff, Cotter, and Moran.

Infielders—Ludwig, Knabe, Lobert, Poolan, Downey, Ireland, Walsh, and Cashman.

Outfielders—Mages, Pickett, Titus, Cravath, Brinker, and Hart.

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812 F Street, N.W.

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will do well to consult daily the numerous and unusual bargains offered in the Times "For Sale" Miscellaneous Column on the Want Ad page.

Tomorrow's Sports

Women's golf championships commence at Palm Beach, Fla.

Opening of Baltimore automobile show.

Athletics' second team leaves Philadelphia for San Antonio, Texas.

Leach Cross vs. One Round Hogan, ten rounds, at New York city.

Joe Mandot vs. Pal Moore, ten rounds, at New Orleans, La.

Biennial congress of the American Trotting Association in Chicago.

Meeting of the stewards of the Great Western Circuit in Chicago.

Eastern speed skating championships at Syracuse, N. Y.

Annual bench show of the Westminster Kennel Club opens in New York.

International Checker Tournament opens in New York.

Twenty-eight Candidates For Baseball at Lehigh

"Twenty-eight candidates have reported for the varsity team at Lehigh University for the coming season. Captain McHardy, Bell, Driscoll, and Gaten form the nucleus around which the nine will be built. Nineteen games will be played during the season, eleven at South Bethlehem, and the rest on foreign fields. Following is the schedule.

March 27 and 28—Open.
April 10—Princeton, away.
April 12—Cornell, away.
April 17—Yale, away.
April 24—East Ends, at Bethlehem.
April 24—Tufts, at home.
April 26—Columbia, at home.
May 1—Franklin and Marshall, away.
May 4—Army, away.
May 8—Open.
May 15—Siena, away.
May 15—Pennsylvania, away.
May 15—Lafayette, at home.
May 22—Open.
May 25—Lafayette, away.
May 29—Buttlers, at home.
June 1—Swatmore, at home.
June 3—Lafayette, at home.

Brooklyn Rookies Leave for South

Under the direction of Manager "Red Bill" Lahlen, the rookies of the Brooklyn National League team are today speeding on their way toward Hot Springs, Ark., leaving New York yesterday. In the party, besides the manager, were "Tex" Erwin, the chubby backstop; Third Baseman Green, Second Baseman "Cutshaw," Shastown Downis, Pitcher James, and Trainer Comfortford. "Wee Willie" Keeler, the old-time star of the New York Highlanders, will take another batch of men later in the week, as Lahlen wants the whole squad at the Springs by February 28.

Dahlen expects Barney Reilly, the old Yale captain, to make good in the Dodgers' infield this season. Reilly was taken from Yale by the Chicago White Sox and farmed out to Sioux City, where he proceeded to make good with a vengeance at third. He hit .24 last year, and was second in the fielding.

While the team is going through its training stunts, President Charles Glavin will busy the work on his new park. He wants it to be ready as soon as possible, because, as he says, "Brooklyn is going to be up in the race and we'll need room for the fans."

S.S.S. NATURE'S CURE FOR BLOOD POISON

S. S. S. is known as Nature's Cure for Contagious Blood Poison because it is prepared entirely from the blood purifying and healing extracts of roots, herbs and barks taken directly from the natural forests of the land. It does not contain the least particle of strong mineral ingredients, and is so prepared as to aid in the upbuilding of every portion of the system, while driving Contagious Blood Poison from the blood. No unpleasant effects ever follow the use of S. S. S., such as stomach troubles, dyspepsia, mercurial rheumatism, etc., as is so often the case where other medicines are used. S. S. S. goes down to the very bottom of the trouble and gently but surely, drives out every trace of the disease, cleanses and purifies the circulation, and by its fine vegetable tonic effects, assists the system to rapidly overcome the ravages of the disease, and regain its natural healthful condition. S. S. S. does not cover up or hide the symptoms for awhile, to break out later, but so thoroughly does it remove the cause that no signs of the trouble ever return. S. S. S., Nature's cure, is the surest and safest remedy for Contagious Blood Poison. Home Treatment Book with valuable suggestions and information, and any medical advice free to all who write.

THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., ATLANTA, GA.